

## A Rewarding Experience



## Volunteering for ASME Committees

Benefits to You and Your Organization

## What You Gain From Joining ASME Standards & Certification Committees

For more than 100 years, ASME has successfully attracted volunteer technical experts to develop, maintain and disseminate ASME codes and standards. Participation by volunteers in ASME standards-writing committees is the lifeblood of the ASME standards-writing process. Committee participation provides value to the individuals involved, their employers that provide the funding for participation, and the general public.



**Kenneth R. Balkey, P.E.**  
Consulting Engineer  
Westinghouse Electric Co.

*“...Incredible **technical exposure** and collaboration”*

*“...**Lifelong friendships** with top practitioners and leaders in my field”*

*“...Pride in doing something **important for our profession**”*



*“...On the **leading edge** of key developments”*

*“...Contributing to the **well-being** of humankind”*

*“...One of the **best things** I’ve done for my career”*

## Who We Are

Founded in 1880 as the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, ASME is a not-for-profit, professional organization promoting the art, science, and practice of mechanical and multidisciplinary engineering and allied sciences. ASME develops codes and standards that enhance public safety, and provides lifelong learning and technical exchange opportunities benefiting the engineering and technology community. Visit [www.asme.org](http://www.asme.org).

## What We Do

Manufacturers, end-users, and regulatory agencies in more than 100 countries use ASME's 500 internationally recognized codes and standards. Since 1884, when the first performance test codes were developed, ASME has pioneered the development of codes, standards, and related conformity assessment programs.

## What We Do (CONT'D)

These codes and standards promote safety, reliability, productivity, and efficiency in industry.

ASME provides invaluable technical support to business, industry, and government through the distribution and maintenance of ASME standards, conformity assessment, and related activities. ASME continues to be the globally-recognized forum where engineers, academics, manufacturers, and government officials share knowledge, experience, and ideas in support of the codes and standards development process.

The Society sponsors more than 30 conferences each year, and is one of the world's largest technical publishers, with more than 2,000 titles in print at any given time, including books, proceedings, and technical papers.

## Business

ASME helps companies gain a competitive edge through participation on standards development committees for technical standards. Involvement on ASME committees provides companies with critical information, plus opportunities to expand their global networks and strengthen involvement in the decision-making process.

Being involved in the development of codes and standards provides early and ongoing awareness of technical issues in industry and how others are dealing with them. This awareness allows participants to avoid these issues within their own organizations or to have solutions prepared should problems arise.

## Government

ASME helps governments ensure the safety of their citizens and their environment through the adoption of codes and standards to satisfy regulation. Use of codes and standards lessens the burden on government by providing a technically sound basis for achieving regulatory goals without imposing an unnecessary burden on industry.

Government involvement on ASME committees provides officials with critical information and strengthens involvement in the decision-making process, so that regulations are understood and enforceable.

*"Since 1884, ASME has pioneered the development of codes and standards used in more than 100 countries providing a technical basis for achieving regulatory goals without imposing an unnecessary burden on industry."*



## Why Should I Join an ASME Committee?

### *Individual benefits*

Individuals can have a significant influence on the direction and quality of codes and standards. Representation by many different organizations in the standards-development process ensures that all interests are considered. Contributing to work on codes and standards committees is personally rewarding:

#### Senior-level Contributors / SME's

- Join forces with the best-of-the-best technical experts in your field.
- Achieve a personal network of peer contacts for valuable technical guidance and insight.
- Gain access to standards revisions ahead of the rest of the industry.
- Gain insight about whom to hire as knowledgeable and experienced consultants should your company need them.

#### Mid-career Contributors

- Become aware of technical issues in your industry and learn how others are dealing with them.
- See your work become part of an international engineering standard that is used globally.

#### Early-career Contributors

- Become intimately knowledgeable about the codes and standards with which you work.
- Develop experience in teamwork and in the art of consensus-building – both of which are directly transferable to other work areas.
- Learn how to run meetings that are productive and focused.
- Gain technical leadership skills by spearheading a task group, subcommittee or eventually the committee itself.
- Develop the ability to influence, persuade and communicate your technical views in order to be a more effective contributor.
- Develop a better understanding of the industry by getting out from behind your desk in your localized work area and seeing how the rest of your industry works.

## Who Participates on ASME Committees?

### *The best-of-the-best technical experts*

#### Job Titles

- ASME Standards & Certification benefits from a broad range of volunteer experience, from department heads and the top technical experts in their fields all the way to young engineers in their early-career stages. This mix helps assure that the resulting standards are truly visionary, while also being practical and applicable for everyday end-users.

#### Organizations

- ASME Standards & Certification enjoys ongoing volunteer contributions from hundreds of leading companies, consultants, academics and government officials. Standards development committees typically feature strong representation of Fortune 500 corporations drawn from across the breadth of applicable industries.



## Why Should I Support My Employee's Involvement?

### Employer Benefits

#### Corporate Consideration / Updates

- Ensures that the interests, practices and experience of the employer are thoroughly considered in developing and updating requirements in codes and standards.
- Reduces the risk that the committee will create requirements that are incompatible with your products or services or your corporate codes and standards.
- Ensures that the employer has early access to and is continuously aware of upcoming technical revisions and their technical basis so that these changes can be incorporated into designs while the standards development is taking place.
- Provides early and ongoing awareness of technical issues in the industry; this allows participants to avoid these issues within their own organizations or to have solutions prepared should the problem arise.
- Provides understanding of the codes and standards. This develops confidence in the application of rules, increases efficiency and reduces cost to the organization.

#### Operational Returns

- Gives the organization opportunity for shared participation in R&D efforts at a lower cost than if done by a single entity.
- Provides benchmarking opportunities.
- Provides knowledge of whom to hire as knowledgeable and experienced consultants in time of such need.
- Provides participants with complimentary access to the ASME codes and standards related to their committee work.

#### Staff Development

- Provides opportunities for participants to get to know other technical experts personally; these contacts provide unmatched resources for solving technical problems.
- Increases the business technical leadership and communications skills of the participants which in turn increases performance and contribution as employees.



*"...The reason the company would sponsor [employees] is to make sure that the rules reflected their experience and capabilities."*

*"If the code or standard does not reflect best practices—the right way to do things—then that company could be at a disadvantage, and society as a whole would be at a disadvantage."*

J. R. "Bob" Sims  
Senior Engineering Fellow  
Becht Engineering Co., Inc.



*"You know what's coming next so you can get your staffs prepared, keep them at the forefront, and make sure they provide a quality inspection for the public."*

Norman B. Martin  
Chief Elevator Inspector  
State of Ohio

# “...One of the Best Things I’ve Done for My Career”

## What Would Be My Responsibilities / Commitment?

Duties and responsibilities will vary with the type of membership. ASME offers the following membership classifications:

- Member
- Corresponding Member
- Delegate
- Contributing Member
- Alternate
- Representative

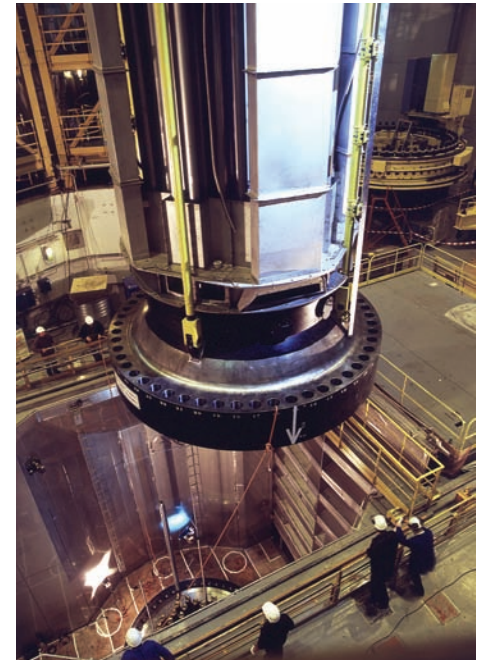
For a description of each classification, responsibilities / expectations and privileges, please access the Volunteer Handbook at:

<http://cstools.asme.org/csconnect/CommitteePages.cfm>

## What Openings Are There and How Do I Apply?

For a listing of all ASME Standards & Certification committees, applications to join, benefits of participating, and other information, please go to:

<http://go.asme.org/ParticipateInStandards>  
or email: [cs@asme.org](mailto:cs@asme.org)







## Get Involved!

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### Volunteer for ASME Committees